

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing system comprising an image input device, multiple printers, and a printing management device receiving printing instruction information and transmitting printing information corresponding to the printing instruction information to a corresponding printer among the multiple printers,

the image input device comprising:

printing instruction information setting means for setting printing instruction information including specification of a desired printer among the multiple printers;

image data producing means for producing image data corresponding to the printing instruction information set by the printing instruction information setting means; and

transmitting means for transmitting the printing instruction information set by the printing instruction information setting means and the image data produced by the image data producing means to the printing management device, and

the printing management device comprising:

storage management means for storing and managing the printing instruction information and the image data transmitted from the transmitting means in association with each other; and

transmission control means for transmitting the image data corresponding to the desired printer based on the printing instruction information stored and managed in the storage management means.

2. The printing system according to claim 1, wherein

the printing instruction information setting means sets printing instruction information including specification of multiple desired printers,

the image data producing means produces multiple pieces of image data corresponding to the respective multiple desired printers included in the printing instruction information set by the printing instruction information setting means,

the transmitting means transmits the multiple pieces of image data together with the printing instruction information to the printing management device, and

the storage management means stores and manages the multiple pieces of image data corresponding to the respective multiple desired printers.

3. A printing system comprising an image input device, multiple printers, and a printing management device receiving printing instruction information and transmitting printing information corresponding to the printing instruction information to a corresponding printer among the multiple printers,

the image input device comprising:

printing instruction information setting means for setting printing instruction information including specification of a desired printer among the multiple printers;

image data producing means for producing image data corresponding to the printing instruction information set by the printing instruction information setting means; and

transmitting means for transmitting the printing instruction information set by the printing instruction information setting means and information on a storing location of the image data produced by the image data producing means to the printing management device, and

the printing management device comprising:

storage management means for storing and managing the printing instruction information and the information on the storing location of the image data transmitted

from the transmission means in association with each other; and

transmission control means for transmitting the image data corresponding to the desired printer based on the printing instruction information stored and managed by the storage management means to the desired printer from the storing location of the image data indicated in the information on the storing location.

4. The printing system according to claim 3, wherein

the printing instruction information setting means sets printing instruction information including specification of multiple desired printers,

the image data producing means produces multiple pieces of image data corresponding to the respective multiple desired printers included in printing instruction information set by the printing instruction information setting means,

the transmitting means transmits information on storing locations of the respective multiple pieces of image data together with the printing instruction information to the printing management device, and

the storage management means stores and manages the information on the storing locations of the multiple pieces of image data corresponding to the respective multiple desired printers.

5. The printing system according to claim 2, wherein

the multiple printers have functions different from each other, and

the image data producing means produces multiple pieces of image data corresponding to the respective functions of the multiple printers.

6. The printing system according to claim 1, wherein

the printing instruction information setting means comprises:  
outputting method specifying means for specifying an outputting method in a printer;

printer list display means for displaying a list of selectable printers based on the outputting method specified by the outputting method specifying means;

printer specifying means for specifying a desired printer in the list of displayed printers; and

setting means for setting an output mode by the printer specified by the printer specifying means.

7. A printing control method for a printing system including an image input device, multiple printers, and a printing management device receiving printing instruction information and transmitting printing information corresponding to the printing instruction information to a corresponding printer among the multiple printers, the method comprising the steps of:

causing the image input device to set printing instruction information including specification of a desired printer among the multiple printers, produce image data corresponding to the set printing instruction information, and transmit the set printing instruction information and the produced image data to the printing management device, and

causing the printing management device to store and manage the printing instruction information and the image data transmitted from the image input device in association with each other, and transmit the image data corresponding to the desired printer based on the stored and managed printing instruction information.

8. The printing control method according to claim 7, wherein

the image input device is caused to set printing instruction information including specification of multiple desired printers, produce multiple pieces of image data corresponding to the respective multiple desired printers included in the printing instruction information, and transmit the multiple pieces of image data together with the printing instruction information to the printing management device, and

the printing management device is caused to store and manage the multiple pieces of image data corresponding to the respective multiple desired printers.

9. A printing control method for a printing system including an image input device, multiple printers, and a printing management device receiving printing instruction information and transmitting printing information corresponding to the printing instruction information to a corresponding printer among the multiple printers, the method comprising the steps of:

causing the image input device to set printing instruction information including specification of a desired printer among the multiple printers, produce image data corresponding to the set printing instruction information, and transmit the set printing instruction information and information on a storing location of the produced image data; and

causing the printing management device to store and manage the printing instruction information and information on the storing location of the image data transmitted from the image input device in association with each other, and transmit the image data corresponding to the desired printer based on the stored and managed printing instruction information to the desired printer from the storing location of the image data indicated in the information on the storing location.

10. The printing control method according to claim 9, wherein  
the image input device is caused to set printing instruction information  
including specification of multiple desired printers, produce multiple pieces of image  
data corresponding to the respective multiple desired printers included in the printing  
instruction information, and transmit information on storing locations of the respective  
multiple pieces of image data together with the printing instruction information to the  
printing management device, and

the printing management device is caused to store and manage the  
information on the storing locations of the multiple pieces of image data corresponding  
to the respective multiple desired printers.

11. The printing control method according to claim 8, wherein  
the multiple printers have functions different from each other, and  
the image input device produces multiple pieces of image data corresponding  
to the respective functions of the multiple printers.

12. The printing control method according to claim 7, wherein  
the printing instruction information specifies an outputting method in a printer,  
displays a list of selectable printers based on the specified outputting method, specifies  
a desired printer in the displayed list of the printers, and sets an outputting mode by the  
specified printer.